

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1           1. (original) A plug connector for exterior  
2         applications, especially for the electrical connection of solar  
3         panels, comprised of a plug (16) with a plug housing (14), having  
4         at least one contact pin (3) or a contact sleeve (13), and of a  
5         coupling (1) with a coupling housing (2) that has at least one  
6         contact sleeve (13) or a contact pin (3),

7                 whereby the plug (16) and the contact pin (3) can be  
8         plugged at least partially into the coupling (1),

9                 whereby the contact pin (3) and the contact sleeve (13)  
10      are each connectable by at least one crimp connection with at least  
11      one cable connector (12) of a cable (4),

12                 whereby the plug (16) and the coupling (1) each have a  
13      locking part of a locking unit for fixing the plug (16) and the  
14      coupling (1) relative to one another, and

15                 whereby on the plug housing (14) and on the coupling  
16      housing (2) each respective seal is provided against the outer  
17      jacket of the cable (4),

18      characterized in that

19                 the contact pin (3) and the contact sleeve (13) each have  
20      at least one detent hook (7) that, upon insertion of the contact  
21      pin (3) and the contact sleeve (13) in the respective plug housing  
22      (14) and the coupling housing (2) engages behind a respective  
23      shoulder therein.

1           2. (original) The plug connector for exterior  
2         applications according to claim 1 characterized in that the contact  
3         pin (3) and the contact sleeve (13) each are formed with two,  
4         preferably diametrically oppositely arranged, detent hooks (7) and  
5         the shoulder (6) is configured as an annular shoulder.

1           3. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2         one of claims claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the contact  
3         pin (3) and the contact sleeve (13) each have a projection (annular  
4         projection 8), that the plug housing (14) and the coupling housing  
5         (2) each have a constriction, and that after engagement of the  
6         detent hook or detent hooks (7) behind the shoulder (6) the  
7         projection (annular projection 8) abuts the constriction.

1           4. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2         one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the  
3         construction is configured as an annular bead and the annular  
4         shoulder (shoulder 6) is a component of the annular bead (5).

1           5. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2         one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the plug  
3         housing (14) and the coupling housing (2) have a cylindrical

4       enlargement in the region turned toward the cable (4) and in which  
5       the seal (9) is set and fixed.

1                 6. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the seal  
3       (9) is adhesively bonded in the plug (14) and coupling housing (2).

1                 7. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the plug  
3       housing (14) and the coupling housing (2) are made from plastic and  
4       the seal (9) is made in common with the plug housing (14) and the  
5       coupling housing (2) in a two component technique.

1                 8. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the seal  
3       (9) on a surface turned toward the cable 4 is provided with  
4       circumferential grooves and ribs and forms a kind of labyrinth  
5       seal.

1                 9. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the plug  
3       housing (14) and coupling housing(2) in the region of the seal (9)  
4       is provided with at least one longitudinally extending spreading  
5       gap or opening.

1           10. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the plug  
3       housing 14 and the coupling housing 2 are made from a metallic  
4       material, preferably a noncorroding metal.

1           11. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that in the  
3       making of the plug housing (14) and/or the coupling housing (2) of  
4       metal, between it and the contact sleeve (13) an insulating body is  
5       inserted.

1           12. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that within  
3       the plug (14) or the coupling housing (2) other housings are  
4       provided and that at the ends turned away from the cable have  
5       sealing rings 10 that correspond to the seals (9) between the plug  
6       housing (14) and the coupling housing (2) and the cable (4).

1           13. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       one of the preceding claims claim 1 characterized in that the  
3       locking part of the plug housing (14) or the coupling housing that  
4       engages one around the other has eyes (11) at their ends turned  
5       away from the cable, preferably formed as two diametrically  
6       opposite eyes.

1           14. (currently amended) The plug connector according to  
2       ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 characterized in that the  
3       locking part of the plug housing (14) or the coupling housing (2)  
4       one of which is received in the other, is provided with eyes (11)  
5       locally and spatially corresponding locking hooks (15).

1           15. (original) A method of making a plug (16) or  
2       coupling (1) of a plug connector according to ~~one of the preceding~~  
3       claims claim 1 characterized in that the cable (4) is fed through  
4       the plug housing (14) or the coupling housing (2) and through the  
5       seal (9) thereof, that the cable (4) is isolated and the contact  
6       pin (3) or the contact sleeve (13) is connected by a crimp pliers  
7       with the cable conductor (12) of the cable (4) and that the plug  
8       housing (14) or coupling housing (2) is shoved so further in the  
9       direction toward the contact sleeve with respect to the cable (4)  
10      so that they lock in the plug housing (14) or the coupling housing  
11      (2).